

Law, Rules and Ethics Committee

MINUTES

Thursday, January 22, 2015
Riverdale Mental Health Association
2nd floor, Conference Room

Attendance: I. William Stone, Margaret Donato, Robert Fanuzzi, Arlene Feldmeier, Philip Friedman, Rosemary Ginty, Irving Ladimer, Anthony Piscitelli, Robert Press, Martin Wolpoff,

Community Board Member: Herb Young

Meeting started 7:15

1. Legislative Review
 - a. Appreciation to Rosemary Ginty for updating Legislative Review spreadsheet
 - b. Chair pointed out Reso 251, concerned with the LG issue, T3015-2361 concerns street naming changes, including one for Debbie Bowden, and 585-2014 which focuses on community board term limits. He also shared the response from a Queens Board which was not supportive of this Council intro.
2. Review/Approval of November minutes
 - a. Corrections: Bob Fanuzzi and Maria Khury should have been noted as absent
 - b. Discussion on Board Chair Dan Padernacht's report concerning request from LRE to look into GrowNYC matter
 - i. Mr. Padernacht report which was already shared with the Board membership, suggested that there was no need for further action
 - ii. However, he offered two conclusions
 1. The effective date of the contract shall not be earlier than the date in which the Community Board approves the contract
 2. The individual signing of the contract for the Board shall enter the date in which he or she signs the contract next to the signature.
 - iii. Although he wasn't present, the Chair thanked Mr. Padernacht for his timely and extensive review of the facts and his report.
 - c. Mr. Fanuzzi made a motion to amend the minutes concerning the item about which Mr. Padernacht's report was based. The motion was defeated.
For: R. Fanuzzi, I.W. Stone
Against: A. Feldmeier, P. Freidman, R. Ginty, I. Ladimer, A. Piscitelli, R. Press, M. Wolpoff,
Abstention: M. Donato,
 - d. Chair outlined new procedure concerning approval of minutes: draft is sent to committee members, members have 48 hours to contact chair to offer comments, corrections, etc., chair revises minutes at his/her discretion, minutes forwarded to Board email list as draft, final approval of minutes is done by quorum at next meeting of committee.
3. Review of Conflict Of Interest Board decisions
 - a. COIB decisions were shared with the committee
 - b. Chairman shared NY Post article concerning Brooklyn community board member who improperly accepted a gift of gym membership based on her position as a board member

4. Discussion of OML proposal for Community Board 8 implementation
 - a. Chairman reminded members that the committee had shared with the executive committee a draft of proposed board rules concerning the Open Meetings Law
 - b. Exec members were asked for their input Mike Heller responded asking why our board needs to establish such rules
 - c. The OML rules will be brought back to the Exec for approval and to be forward for approval by the full Board

5. Chair shared with correspondence he had with COOG, as well as reported on a conversation he had with them
 - a. While he received clarifications concerning a nominating committee, it was obvious that nominating committee discussions must be subject to OML
 - b. Emergency meetings require 72 hours notice. Thus, a subcommittee of a committee constrained by time limits could set up a series of meetings of announced meetings or announce a meeting with 72 hours notice so long as the notice is posted in our regular location (not identified at present. It could be on the Board office door), notice on our web site and email notification.
 - c. On-site meetings for fact-finding or negotiation do not require public notice so long as no discussion takes place that would bring the committee to a policy decision.

6. Discussion of by-laws revision concerns
 - a. Full discussion will take place at the 1/29 meeting of the bylaws working group
 - b. There were five responses from committee members commenting on the working group's minutes. These were shared with the committee and will be discussed at the working group's meeting

7. Discussion of Chairman Padernacht's FOIL proposal
 - a. Committee recommended that proposal be recommended to the Executive Board

8. Meeting adjourned 9:30

Next meeting – Feb 26

Respectfully submitted,

Martin Wolpoff
Chair

With addition notes submitted by Margaret Donato